U.S. Department of Transportation

**United States Coast Guard** 

Commander Eighth Coast Guard District Hale Boggs Federal Building 501 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA 70130-3396 Staff Symbol: oan Phone: 504 - 589 - 4686

JAPR 230993

U. S. Federal Communications Commission Attn: Mr. George Dillon Chief Aviation-Marine Branch 2025 M St. NW, Room 5114 Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Dear Mr. Dillon:

The Eighth Coast Guard District Commander serves as sponsor for the Houston/Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee. This group has requested an expanded allowable use of VHF-FM Channel 77 in the Galveston-Texas City, Texas area to include shoreside communicators. The issue is communication between the pilot and the shore side people during docking/undocking of the vessels.

Use of CH 77 in the Galveston-Texas City Harbor Complex is currently restricted to marine pilots only. The marine pilots